



# PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY

**CR-101 (June 2004)**

(Implements RCW 34.05.310)  
Do NOT use for expedited rule making

**Agency:** Forest Practices Board

**Subject of possible rule making:**

Amend Title 222 WAC, Forest Practices Act, related to Northern Spotted Owl protection.

**Statutes authorizing the agency to adopt rules on this subject:**

RCW 76.09.010(1), RCW 76.09.040

**Reasons why rules on this subject may be needed and what they might accomplish:**

In 1996 the Forest Practices Board responded to the Endangered Species Act listing of the Northern Spotted Owl as "threatened" by adopting rules to protect its habitat on state and private forestlands. The Northern Spotted Owl's populations are thought to have declined significantly in Washington State since 1996. The Board is considering possible actions, including forest practices rule changes for state and private forestlands, to strengthen the conservation of spotted owl habitat on lands under the Board's jurisdiction.

**Identify other federal and state agencies that regulate this subject and the process coordinating the rule with these agencies:**

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service administers the federal Endangered Species Act for upland wildlife, including the Northern Spotted Owl. The Board intends that the Department of Natural Resources, which implements Board actions, will work with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other stakeholders, including the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife, to develop recommendations for the Board's consideration.

**Process for developing new rule (check all that apply):**

- ☐ Negotiated rule making
- ☐ Pilot rule making
- ☒ Agency study
- ☐ Other (describe)

**How interested parties can participate in the decision to adopt the new rule and formulation of the proposed rule before publication:**

(List names, addresses, telephone, fax numbers, and e-mail of persons to contact; describe meetings, other exchanges of information, etc.)

Mail, fax, or email comments to:

Patricia Anderson, Forest Practices Board Coordinator

Department of Natural Resources

Forest Practices Division

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**DATE**

8/16/05

**NAME (TYPE OR PRINT)**

Pat McElroy

**SIGNATURE**

L.S. Young, Acting

**TITLE**

Chairman

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